

Lesson 12

## *In San Diego Harbour, California*

by Paulo Coelho

*Like the Flowing River*, HAPPER 2007/from Portuguese by Margaret Jull Costa

I was talking to a woman from the Tradition of the Moon - a kind of initiation path for women that works in harmony with the forces of nature.

'Would you like to touch a seagull?' she asked, looking at the birds perched along the sea wall. Of course I would. I tried several times, but whenever I got close, they would fly away.

"Try to feel love for the bird, then allow that love to pour out of your breast like a ray of light and touch the bird's breast. Then very quietly go over to it."

I did as she suggested. The first two times I failed, but the third time, as if I had entered a kind of trance, I did touch the seagull. I went into that trance state again with the same positive result.

'Love creates bridges where it would seem they were impossible,' said my white witch friend. I recount this experience here, for anyone who would like to try it.